



Subject	RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)
From	ppe-briefing
To	[REDACTED]
Cc	ppe-briefing; [REDACTED]
Sent	29 September 2021 13:29

Hi,

Sorry [REDACTED], thought I had replied- but sounds good!

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2021 15:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks very much for getting back about this. Yes, I will send you a s21 draft for Q2 (and just to confirm, by doing that we'll be saying that the information at that link in the archive is exactly the same as the document attached). Previously it's been mentioned that the other questions are 'not held', so I'll just put that (but with a signpost to PHE). You can change it as necessary anyway.



Thank you and best regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2021 11:15
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk> [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

[REDACTED]

For this FOI we can do a section 21 exemption and send them to the following link: [\[ARCHIVED CONTENT\] COVID-19: infection prevention and control - GOV.UK \(nationalarchives.gov.uk\)](#). Would

you be able to do a draft based on this?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 September 2021 14:13
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]
Thanks very much for the update.
Best,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 September 2021 13:41
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]

Sorry, yes it's very frustrating – from the direction of our SCS it will be a quick fix once we have the answer from the IPC, but we are still awaiting that.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 September 2021 12:06
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]

This one will be due (again) today, and if there is any update on it, please let me know before close. Otherwise I will extend the deadline again this evening (which isn't best practice under FOI, and I'm sure the ICO will take us to task about it if the requestor complains to them).

Just to say again that I appreciate that you are trying to resolve this case, because it's been around for several months now (since April, in fact).

Best,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 September 2021 16:56
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you again for progressing this case, because it has been around for a while (and it's due again tomorrow). If each of the updates asked for in Q1, Q3 and Q4 have been published, then we could apply s21 and link to the information. But I don't think that we can apply s21 to Q2, because the requestor has stated specifically that it is the document that JVT referred to in that NERVTAG meeting that he wants to see (which is the version attached). But if it's the same as the one published, then there should be no sensitivities about disclosing it, of course.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 September 2021 14:38
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]

We believe we will be able to use a section 21 exemption and just guide them to the guidance published on the 12th March. We are just awaiting contact from the IPC cell for them to send us this version but we have not heard so far. Perhaps the section 21 response could be drafted and then hopefully we will just be able to insert the link?

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 September 2021 10:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: FW: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Good morning, [REDACTED]

This one will be due again tomorrow. Please let me know if there is any update on how your team would like to handle it.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 September 2021 13:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi [REDACTED]

Sorry for the delay in responding. Yes, it's attached.

■

From: ■
Sent: 17 September 2021 11:10
To: ■
Cc: ppe-briefing ■ <@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi ■

Do you have the original response foi319111 which corresponds to this case?

Kind regards,

■

From: ■
Sent: 13 September 2021 16:35
To: ■
Cc: ppe-briefing ■ <@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 22 September)

Hi ■

Thanks for your message, and I appreciate your having taken up this case, because it has been around for a long time, and so far the only person who seems to know anything about it is ■. ■ went out to PHE, but I wasn't copied in on their response, but I don't think they were that helpful.

Someone in your team would need to confirm that s35 is appropriate, because it would be one of your SCSs that we would need to sign it off, and if it comes back for Internal Review, my manager would be coming back to your team about it. Please bear in mind that for s35 the critical thing is that the information is relating to current policy formulation (ie so it would need to be very much an ongoing policy). Just as an indication of how the ICO doesn't want depts to withhold information without good justification for doing so, please see attached a recent email we had from the ICO querying that our use of s35 was justified (that one is nothing to do with your team and PPE, I'm just sending it as an example). But, yes, of course, if your team has decided that s35 is appropriate to withhold, I will forward you a draft.

The deadline for this case has been extended a few times now, and it's now due again on 22 September.

Best wishes

■

From: ■
Sent: 13 September 2021 15:54
To: ■
Cc: ppe-briefing ■ <@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi ■

Do you still need an answer to the below FOI?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 31 August 2021 17:02

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

I have just returned from leave and picked this up on behalf of my team. Am I correct in thinking we still need to answer the below points?:

Subject: FOI-1319111

Thank you for your letter e-mailed to me yesterday. I am not satisfied with your response and wish to lodge an appeal. My interest is not in current IPC guidance to which you have referred me via the link in your letter. I am very familiar with these documents. I am also aware of the version history.

I made it very clear by explicitly stating my request for the specific document referred to in paragraph 2.3 of the minutes of the 9th meeting of the NERVTAG COVID-19 committee which was held by telecon on 13 March 2020.

To save you looking this up, it stated that "JVT commented that he has sent a revised version to the NHS yesterday as a matter of urgency". It is that "revised version" which I wish to see please, not the guidance as it is today.

I am pleased to hear in your letter that you do hold this document and I request that you release it to me or, if you will not release it to me, give me the reason why you refuse. If that specific document is in the public domain (which I very much doubt) then please send me the link to it. As mentioned, I am aware of the version history of the IPC document going back to its first issue on 10/1/2020.

My requirements now are to see the exact wording in the documents as they were issued during March 2020.

So please send me the full version of the document as it existed on the following 4 dates:

- 1.-The update published on 6th March 2020 (Changes to PPE and mask and respiratory recommendations for different situations);*
- 2.-The document referred to above that was sent by Professor Van Tam to NHS on 12th March; and*
- 3.-The update published on 13th March 2020 (Added 'Infection prevention and control guidance for pandemic coronavirus')*
- 4.-The update published on 21st March 2020 (Added new guidance on when to use a face mask or FFP3 respirator.)*

I am aware that items requested at 1), 3) and 4) were not part of my original FoI request and may therefore fall outside of the matters you can consider under an appeal. If this is the case then please consider this email as being a new FoI request for copies of these three documents.

From: David Osborn <david.osborn@tridenthse.co.uk> Sent: 29 April 2021

To my mind, and as appears to have been discussed on the chain wouldn't this all fall under an s.35 policy in progress exemption?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 August 2021 16:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks very much for confirming that you (or someone else in your team) will pick it up. It has been around for quite a few weeks now. But I understand what you mean about capacity, of course, and we are sending lots of cases in your direction. We are struggling to keep on top of cases too, tbh. Unfortunately the ICO takes a very firm line with these things, though, and sometimes issues 10 day deadlines to respond, or be in serious breach of FOI.

KR
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 August 2021 16:33
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: RE: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

I'm really sorry for the slow reply. This was not previously handed over to me but I (or someone else in the team) will take it forward. Unfortunately our team is very, very tight in terms of capacity at the moment! FOIs are one of our priorities but we are still struggling to get through them alongside our other high priority work!

Thank you for extending the deadline!

KR,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 August 2021 16:22
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: -FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111) (FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

I'd be grateful for any update you can provide on this case, please. I will extend the deadline again

today, but we should respond as soon as possible. If this doesn't sit with you I'd be grateful if you could point me in the right direction with it. The PHE did apparently reply to [REDACTED] about it, but I did not see their response. [REDACTED] seems to have some knowledge of this guidance from his previous role.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 August 2021 15:33
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111) (FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Before [REDACTED] left, [REDACTED] let me know that you might be picking up this case. I think [REDACTED] may have spoken to [REDACTED] about it, but I did not hear the upshot of that.

It will be due again tomorrow (24 August), having had the deadline extended three times already (which is not considered good practice under FOI), and I think this requestor will complain to the ICO if we don't respond soon.

Thank you if you are happy to pick this up.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 August 2021 15:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Oh good- I expect our paths will cross again then! 😊 Best of luck in your new role.

Yes, please let me know if [REDACTED] will be happy to take it.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 August 2021 15:57
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Yes off to public health reform! Thanks [REDACTED] I think [REDACTED] may be taking it but just confirming with her now 😊

Thanks for all your help!

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 05 August 2021 15:56

To: [REDACTED] >

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

Oh gosh, I'm glad I caught you then! I hope you are staying in the dept?

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 August 2021 15:54

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

I

So sorry for the delay! Its my last day in PPE today so I am handing this over to a colleague but will speak to [REDACTED] now about it, I will note the new deadline to whoever takes over and let you know who is taking this one.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 August 2021 15:42

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

I'd be grateful if you would confirm that you're happy to take this case forward, because I didn't hear back from you after my email to you below where I pointed out that I hadn't received the attachment.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 28 July 2021 10:13

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for this. The attachment was missing though. I don't know the answer, but I think [REDACTED] might (or at least he may be able to suggest who could help). This request started off with the CMO/DCMO's office, but they pointed me in the direction of policy.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 July 2021 22:38

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see below from PHE, is this something you may be able to advise on?

The team had asked me to confirm with you that the document had indeed been sent to the NHS, and in what way was it shared – as per the attached email. The team felt they would need this information before they were able to provide comment on the release of the document. Is this something you would be able to advise on?

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 July 2021 20:47
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 24 August)

Hi [REDACTED]

Just to say that I have extended the deadline again on this case, so it's now due on 24th August. However, it would be best if we could get a response out asap.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 July 2021 13:26
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 29 July)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for chasing up with PHE. [REDACTED] had anticipated it would be likely that it's sensitive information, and that we could apply s35 (policy in development) to withhold.

If I don't hear back, I will extend the deadline again (but it's not best practice).

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 July 2021 13:21
To: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 29 July)

Hiya,

I did send this on to PHE and I have just chased them for a response, they said they would get someone in policy to take a look.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 July 2021 13:19
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 29 July)

Hi [REDACTED]

Please let me know if there's any update on this case. You were planning on contacting PHE about it. Unfortunately it's due again today.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 June 2021 14:34
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 29 June)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for confirming. If you are happy to take this up with PHE, that would be great - thank you!

I will extend the deadline again today.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 June 2021 14:31
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline extended to 29 June)

Hi [REDACTED]

So sorry for any delay on this. I think the best thing to do would be to seek guidance from PHE on if we can release as we (PPE briefing) are not best placed to advise this. If you could extend the deadline that would be great, I will speak to PHE ASAP.

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 June 2021 14:11
To: Bell [REDACTED] >; ppe-briefing [REDACTED] [@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>
Subject: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111) (FOI deadline extended to 29 June)

Hi [REDACTED]

I was wondering if there might be any update on this case, please? Unfortunately, even though it's PHE's document, as we hold it, then we need to either disclose it, or withhold it, or partially disclose

it. If we are not sure of the sensitivity of it, because PHE created it, then it would be best to go to them to seek their view (but that is not something that we in the FOI team would do, it is something that we would ask your team to do, please, unless you think this would be under another team's remit). [REDACTED] made some helpful comments below, but also suggested that this request would come under your team's remit.

This case is due again today, but I will extend the deadline again if I don't hear anything from you before close.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 June 2021 13:53
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111) (FOI deadline extended to 29 June)

Hi [REDACTED]

Just to confirm that the revised deadline for this case is 29 June.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 May 2021 15:17
To: [REDACTED] ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: -due today-FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for confirming. Yes, I will extend the deadline today, which gives us another 20 working days to respond. It's just an email to the requestor saying that we are considering the balance of the public interest (in this case, under s35). Yes, it's [REDACTED] in the CMO's office who wants to have sight of the proposed response, actually.

I will confirm to you the new deadline when I send the email out to the requestor later.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 May 2021 15:11
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: -due today-FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

I would be content with that, I also believe is it [REDACTED] wants to see the response before it goes out?

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 28 May 2021 15:08

To: ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

Subject: -due today-FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Please let me know what you think would be the best course of action for this case today. Given the possible s35 sensitivities, I think that extending the deadline today under s35 might be appropriate.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 May 2021 17:42

To: ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: -due tomorrow-FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. Just to say that if there might be s35 considerations to disclosing the document [REDACTED] had mentioned s35), then we would be entitled to extend the deadline tomorrow under s35. And if we are not sure to what extent it's sensitive, could we ask PHE? Ideally it's best to go directly to the team that created it (if we have the names), but I could just send it to the PHE FOI mailbox (that would normally take longer, though, because it may not be immediately obvious to the FOI team which team within PHE created it). It's always possible that this requestor has already asked PHE this question too, because it seems the requestor is very knowledgeable about this area.

Just to mention also that [REDACTED] in the CMO's office had said that they wanted to be sighted on the proposed response.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>

Sent: 27 May 2021 17:02

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: -due Friday-FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Pls could you draft a response which provides the document you attached and then points the requestor as per the suggestions below the chain? I will take for clearance but worry my SCS may not be able to comment entirely on if the document attached is controversial or in need of redactions as we did not supply it. Nevertheless, its worth a go to try and make the deadline.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 May 2021 14:53

To: ppe-briefing [REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk>

Subject: -due Friday-FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to

FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Just a reminder that this case will be due on Friday, if it might be possible to meet that deadline, please. Just to flag that [REDACTED] made some suggestions below, which looked very helpful.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 17 May 2021 21:15

To: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Yes, sure, it's attached here.

From: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Sent: 17 May 2021 21:10

To: [REDACTED]; ppe-briefing <ppe-briefing@dhsc.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Thanks [REDACTED], it seems to have fallen off the chain. Would you be able to reattach so I can take a look?

Thanks so much!

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 17 May 2021 20:56

To: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for confirming. As well as the documents in 1, 3 and 4, I would also be grateful if you would speak to the team tomorrow about how we are going to handle the document that we do hold (for point 2).

Best wishes

From: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Sent: 17 May 2021 20:13

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi there,

The PPE briefing team will not hold information for 1,3 and 4 as we do not produce guidance, PHE create the IPC guidance.

Furthermore, the shared mailbox was created in May 2020 so we won't hold it in this mailbox. Wonder if easier to signpost to PHE but will speak to the team tomorrow about this case.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 May 2021 18:20

To: ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Subject: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111) (FOI deadline 28 May)

Hello PPE Briefing

I would be grateful if you would confirm that you are happy to take this forward. [REDACTED] advised below that the PPE team in Jonathan Marron's directorate would be best placed to advise on this case, and he has also made some other helpful suggestions below.

Thanks very much.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 13 May 2021 09:50

To: [REDACTED]; ppe-briefing [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Subject: FW: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hello [REDACTED]

Please find below some James which may help.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Infection Prevention and Control and AMR Programme
UK Health Security
Department of Health & Social Care
Phone : [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 13 May 2021 09:10

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Morning [REDACTED] – no, not us. Whilst its adapted from pan flu guidance, this is for COVID-19 so will sit within their response structures. But some tips for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to help them on their way:

- Within DHSC, the best team to try may be the PPE team in Jonathan Marron's directorate;
- However, I think this is PHE authored and owned guidance; you may want to point the applicant in their direction
- The updates referred to by the applicant that were actually published should be fine to be released, given they were previously public (and only taken down in order to be replaced by more up to date versions);
- I would suggest that the document that [REDACTED] attached probably shouldn't be released,

assuming it is a draft that was changed before publication; a s.35, policy in development would probably be the right exemption. Clearly officials need space to develop and work through drafts, and there is little public interest in releasing those when a finalised version was subsequently published (but this is just my personal take; I obviously don't own the issue!)



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Head of Pandemics and HCIDs – UK Health Security Team

Email: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Department of Health and Social Care, 7th floor, 39 Victoria Street, SW1H 0EU

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 13 May 2021 08:53

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Morning,

Is this anything to do with your area?

Regards

[REDACTED]
Infection Prevention and Control and AMR Programme
UK Health Security
Department of Health & Social Care
Phone : [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 May 2021 21:30

To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@dhsc.gov.uk)>

Subject: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111) (FOI deadline 28 May)

Hello

Apologies if this is not your area, but I'm hoping you might be able to help with this FOI request, please (the request is at the bottom of this thread), or to suggest who might be able to. [REDACTED] in CMO's office has already located the document requested in point 2, and that is attached here. But he does not hold the other 3 documents/versions requested. Also [REDACTED] does not know whether there would be any sensitivities about disclosing the attached document, and says that would be the policy team's call.

Thanks very much for any help you can provide, and please let me know if I can be of assistance. The due date for this case is 28 May.

Best regards

■

FOI team

From: ■

Sent: 11 May 2021 16:07

To: ■

Cc: ■

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hello ■

No redactions have been made so far, which is the why of wanting sight of any release prior to it being sent out.

In case we need to make any *further* redactions we feel necessary, but expect the policy team to lead on this response.

Sorry, I should have been clearer and said: "We do not hold information relevant to points 1, 3 and 4, but the PPE policy team, or guidance team likely will do."

Thanks,

■

From ■

Sent: 11 May 2021 15:05

To: ■

Cc: ■

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi ■

Thank you very much for this. Can you confirm if you're happy for the document to be released as it is, please (and that it hasn't had any redactions made to it already under any FOI exemptions)?

Also, I would be grateful if you would expand a little on why it is we aren't holding the information requested in points 1, 3 and 4 (because the information isn't held in the format requested?). Or please let me know if it's possible that another organisation might be holding it. [↗](#)

Yes, once there's a draft, I will be back in touch to request SCS clearance on it too, please.

Best wishes

■

From: ■

Sent: 11 May 2021 14:13

To: ■

Cc: ■

Subject: RE: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hello ■

Please see the attached document for Point 2, below.

We do not hold the information requested in points 1, 3 and 4.

When it is ready – can the response please be shared with our office prior to it being sent out?

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 May 2021 17:20

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FOI-1326888 revised Infection Prevention and Control guidance (follow up to FOI-1319111)
(FOI deadline 28 May)

Hi [REDACTED]

We have received this follow up request (below) to the response we issued for FOI 1319111 (attached). Although the requestor begins by asking for an Internal Review of FOI 1319111, I have discussed with Nicole, and she thinks it would make more sense to treat all this as a new FOI request, and for all four versions/documents (the blue highlights). If you think this needs to go to policy, names I've seen for infection prevention and control are [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. If they are the right contacts for IPC, I could take this up with them instead, so I'd be grateful if you would let me know. This is the new request:

Subject: FOI-1319111

Thank you for your letter e-mailed to me yesterday. I am not satisfied with your response and wish to lodge an appeal. My interest is not in current IPC guidance to which you have referred me via the link in your letter. I am very familiar with these documents. I am also aware of the version history.

I made it very clear by explicitly stating my request for the specific document referred to in paragraph 2.3 of the minutes of the 9th meeting of the NERVTAG COVID-19 committee which was held by telecon on 13 March 2020.

To save you looking this up, it stated that "JVT commented that he has sent a revised version to the NHS yesterday as a matter of urgency". It is that "revised version" which I wish to see please, not the guidance as it is today.

I am pleased to hear in your letter that you do hold this document and I request that you release it to me or, if you will not release it to me, give me the reason why you refuse. If that specific document is in the public domain (which I very much doubt) then please send me the link to it. As mentioned, I am aware of the version history of the IPC document going back to its first issue on 10/1/2020.

My requirements now are to see the exact wording in the documents as they were issued during March 2020.

So please send me the full version of the document as it existed on the following 4 dates:

- 1.-The update published on 6th March 2020 (Changes to PPE and mask and respiratory recommendations for different situations);*
- 2.-The document referred to above that was sent by Professor Van Tam to NHS on 12th March; and*
- 3.-The update published on 13th March 2020 (Added 'Infection prevention and control guidance for pandemic coronavirus')*
- 4.-The update published on 21st March 2020 (Added new guidance on when to use a face mask or FFP3 respirator.)*

I am aware that items requested at 1), 3) and 4) were not part of my original FOI request and may therefore fall outside of the matters you can consider under an appeal. If this is the case then please consider this email as being a new FOI request for copies of these three documents.

From: David Osborn <david.osborn@tridenthse.co.uk> Sent: 29 April 2021

If it's possible that s12 (ie disproportionate time/cost to locate and extract the information: 24 staff hours) may apply to locating these four versions/documents, we could ask the requestor to narrow the request.

Or if we can locate them, but they are sensitive, there may be an appropriate exemption to withhold them (possibly s35, if this is a live policy area?).

Thanks in advance for your help. The legal deadline for this case is 28 May.



Freedom of Information Officer
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0EU
E: [Redacted]; Tel: 020 7210 6075
Follow us on Twitter @DHSCgovuk

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New Section 2 Page 20

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